

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 19, 25, 31, 32, 34, 38, and 43 have been amended. Claims 1-13 and 16-43 remain pending in the application. Claims 1, 38, and 43 are independent. The objection and rejection are respectfully submitted to be obviated in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

Certain of the claims have been amended to even more fully comply with U.S. practice. Claim 1 has also been amended to define an embodiment of the bottoming device having a glue application head that includes "a channel that provides for circulation of the glue within the application head." Independent claim 38 and 43 have been amended in a manner parallel to that of claim 1. Support for the instant recitations is found at specification page 7, second paragraph, where Applicants disclose that "the glue channels 52 and 53 can be advantageously connected to the front end of the head opposite to the glue ducts" by "another glue channel." In the same paragraph Applicants also disclose that "[i]n this manner a glue circulation through such an application head is possible."

Entry of each of the amendments is respectfully requested.

The objection to the drawings is respectfully deemed to be obviated. First, even in the claims as previously presented, there is no recitation of the objected-to "folding device" feature. Nonetheless, independent claims 1, 38, and 43 have been amended to clarify that the instant invention is directed to the gluer element of the bottoming device.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) - Boger and Pedigrew

Claims 1-13 and 16-43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,687,137 to Boger et al. (hereinafter "Boger") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,016,812 to Pedigrew. The examiner acknowledges that Boger fails to disclose "two rows of valve row" (Office Action page 4).

The rejection of claims 1-13 and 16-43 under § 103(a) based on Boger and Pedigrew is respectfully deemed to be obviated. For at least the following reasons, the combined disclosures of Boger and Pedigrew would not have rendered obvious Applicants' presently claimed invention.

As indicated above, instant claim 1 defines an embodiment of the bottoming device having a glue application head that includes "a channel that provides for circulation of the glue within the application head." By virtue of the claimed channel feature, the glue flows continuously and therefore does not dry or change its characteristics in any way. The glue circulates not depending on whether the valve is open or not, because the glue

circulates only in the main portion of the application head, i.e., the glue channels 52, 53 and the glue circulation channel. This means that the glue can easily be circulated even if all of the valves are open.

The asserted combination of Boger and Pedigrew would not have rendered obvious the presently claimed invention. The combined disclosures of Boger and Pedigrew do not teach all of Applicants' claim features.

Furthermore, regardless of what Pedigrew may disclose with regard to the number of valve rows, the disclosure of Pedigrew does not rectify any of the above-described structural deficiencies of Boger.

Finally, there is simply no teaching in either Boger or Pedigrew that would have led one to select the references and combine them in a way that would produce the invention defined by any of Applicants' pending claims.

Therefore, the combined disclosures of Boger and Pedigrew would not have rendered obvious the invention defined by claim 1. Claims 2-13 and 16-37 are allowable because they depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1, and for the subject matter recited therein. Independent claims 38 and 43 and their dependent claims are similarly allowable.


In view of the foregoing, this application is now in condition for allowance. If the examiner believes that an

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interview might expedite prosecution, the examiner is invited to
contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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